

*This paper was dispersed in every coffee-house in
Oxon. in the beg. of Sept. 1649.*

AN

ADVERTISEMENT

On the behalf of

William Dockwra, Merch^t.

Concerning the

PENNY-POST.

Whereas the said Dockwra did above Nine Years since at his Sole Charge, first set up, that New and Useful Invention of the Penny-Post, so universally approved, and well known to be a Great and Publick good. He was most unjustly deprived thereof, by the Power of the late King James, when Duke of York, under Colour of Law, and kept out of Possession in the late Reigns, without any manner of Reparation to this Day; as appears more fully by his Case lately Printed.

Therefore finding himself obliged, for Vindication of his just rights, and in order to the Reparation of his great damages; to make Address to the Parliament for Relief, he did accordingly exhibit his humble Petition, to the Honourable House of Commons, and upon Reading of the same there, it was Unanimously refer'd to the Committee of the whole House, for considering the Publick Revenue.

Soon after, some Unnamed Person, did Print, and Disperse a Paper, which he call'd; *An answer to Mr. Dockwra's Case concerning the Penny-Post*: wherein, by citing Part only of the Post-Office Statute, and asserting several untruths, and by framing a Trvssing Parallel, between the General and Penny-Post (but leaving out the Material, and Essential Part of the Practice, wherein they are utterly disagreeable and inconsistent) he put the whole Case in a False Light, and as much as in him lay, used his Talent towards the justifying of those Illegal and Arbitrary Proceedings, under which the said Dockwra with his Family of a Wife, and Eight Children, have been so many Years oppressed.

The Design of which Paper, bespeaking the Author, to be a Man of as little Sense, as good Principles. The said Dockwra is well satisfied the present Governour of the General-Post Office, had no hand therein; as knowing his Abilities too great, and (believing his Ingenuity and Justice) to be far above thoughts so low, and attempts so malicious.

Now whereas the said Dockwra, had prepared a Reply to that pretended Answer, which he had by him ready to wash off the Varnish of that Officious Undertaker, and solidly to Evince to the Parliament his Legal Title to this New Invention (never known or practised in the World before) and to expose the wicked Practices that were made use of to Divest him thereof, after he had spent so many Years time, and so many Thousand Pounds (just to bring the Penny-Post to Perfection) and having Dutifully attended the House of Commons to that End. The Parliament adjourned, before the Revenue was settled; so that the said Dockwra's Case came not on to a Hearing this Session, for which Reason, he did not think fit to Print his Reply.

But finding since the Adjournment of the Parliament, the same sort of Papers have been thrown into Coffee-houses and other Places, and Care taken, Industiously to spread false reports about Town, concerning the Issue of the said Dockwra's Petition, which may beget undue Impressions.

The said Dockwra thinks it Incumbent upon him, to Advertise the Publick hereby, that he is not met with any sort of Discouragement from the Parliament in his Application to them for Relief: on the contrary, hath found an Honourable and Universal Countenance therein, and doubts not (at the next meeting of the Parliament) but that he shall receive from their great Wisdom and Justice, such Generous Reparation for his Sufferings, and such due Reward for the Publick Service he hath done his Country; as will be not only to his intire satisfaction, but to their Eternal Honour.

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